



Appl. No.	:	09/992,454
Applicant	:	Sven Sjostam
Filed	:	November 6, 2001
Title	:	Play And Training Equipment
Art Unit.	:	3764
Examiner	:	Fenn C. Matthew
Conf. No.	:	7525
Docket No.	:	MISI 8116US

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

**DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTORSHIP IN A WTO MEMBER  
COUNTRY TO OVERCOME CITED PATENT OR PUBLICATION  
(37 C.F.R. 1.131)**

I, Sven Åke Sjöström, do hereby declare and state as follows:

1. I am the inventor of the play and training equipment described and claimed in US Patent Application No. 09/992,454.
2. In the final office action dated May 28, 2003, the Examiner cited US Pat. No. 6,503,174 to Mantooth, which issued on January 7, 2003 having an effective filing date of January 9, 2001 ("the Mantooth patent").
3. This declaration is to establish completion of my invention in this application prior to the effective filing date of the Mantooth patent. The Mantooth patent was first cited by the Examiner in the office action of May 28, 2003. It was not previously made of record in my application. Thus, I was not able to make this declaration previously.
4. I conceived of my invention, which is described and claimed in my above noted US patent application, no later than early 2000. In fact, in late 1999 or early 2000, I discussed my invention with an consulting designer, Mr. Thorulf Löfstedt, in Sweden. My conception for my play and training equipment is shown in a

communication from me to Mr. Löfstedt, which I prepared in late 1999. A copy of this communication is attached as Exhibit A. In early 2000, I prepared a series of sketches and drawings based upon my conception as set forth in the communication, copies of which are attached as Exhibit B.

5. From the drawings and sketches of Exhibit B, I had models of the invention made. The physical models were made in Sweden. Photographs of the models are attached as Exhibit C. These models were constructed no later than mid-2000 with the assistance of Mr. Löfstedt.

6. Subsequent to the construction of the models, a full-scale prototype of the play and training equipment was produced in Sweden during the early summer of 2000 with the assistance of Mr. Löfstedt. Attached as Exhibit D is a photograph of a group of children playing on the prototype of the play and training equipment of the present invention.

7. As can be seen, the drawings, sketches, models, and photographs of Exhibits B-D are substantially the same as shown in the drawings of the present application. The model and prototype are covered by the claims.

8. The above sketches, drawings, and photographs show that I conceived of and built a prototype of my inventive play and training equipment prior to the effective filing date of the Mantooth patent.

9. I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false

statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both,  
under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful  
false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued

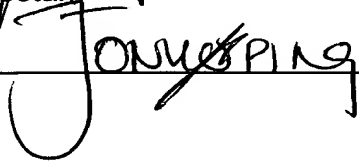
thereon.

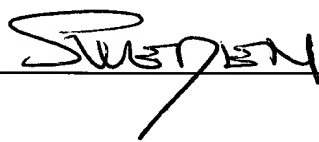
  
Sven Åke Sjöström

Date:

1 Sept -03

Signed At:





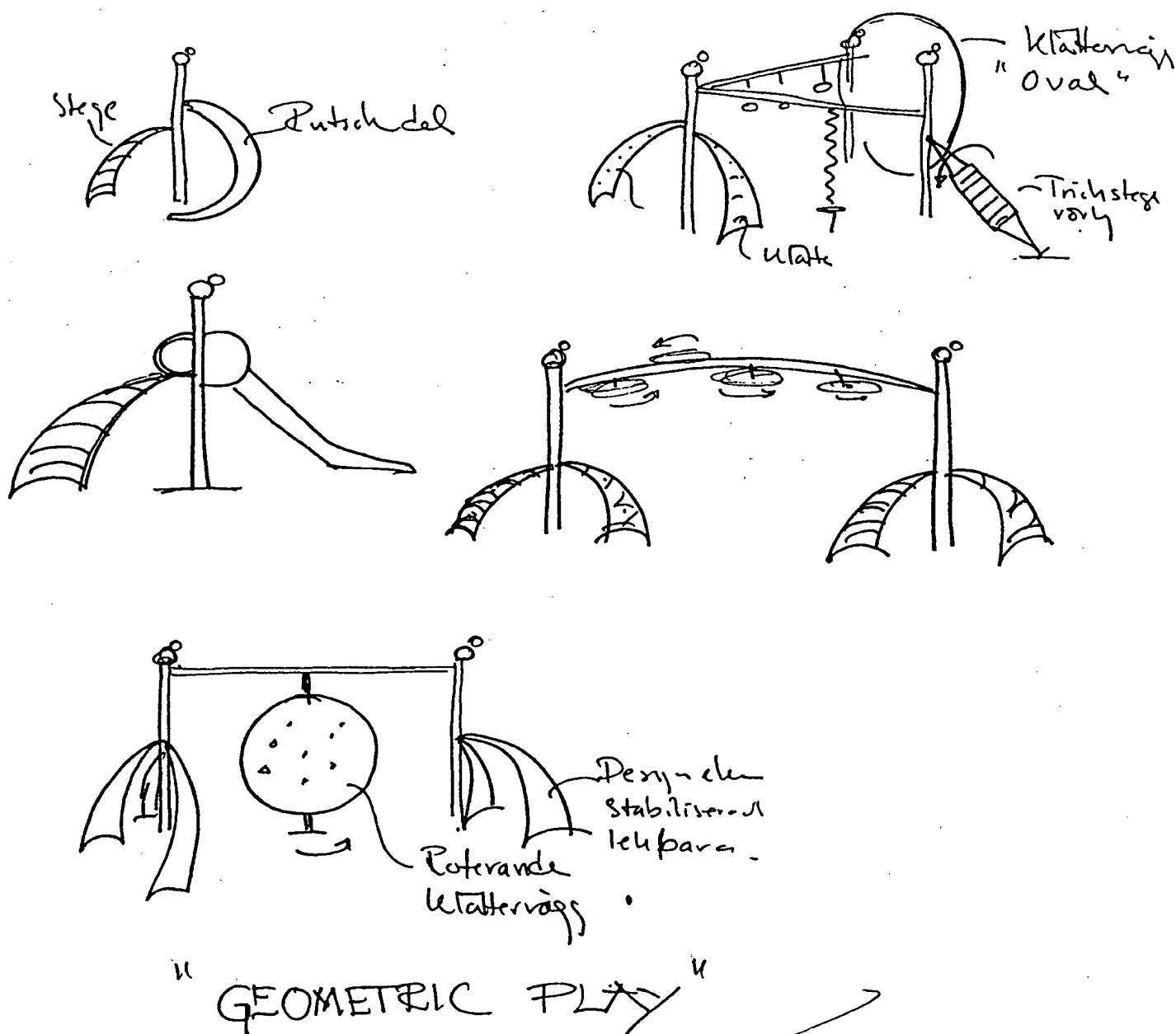
Hej Thorulf!

Jag vill med detta brev föra ett resonemang för att finna en framkomlig väg i produktutvecklingen med stålmaterial. Behovet av stål kommer främst från vissa delar av marknaden, men behovet av nyheter gäller hela marknaden. Att direkt placera in stål stolpe i Uniplay- systemet förefaller för den oinvidde (kunden) som enkelt. I praktiken innebär det att varje komponent måste få en högre tillförlitlighet vad gäller hålbild, samt att vid varje tänkbar förändring påverkas stolpen. Logistikmässigt innebär detta att varje stolpe produceras direkt efter order och beredning av hålbild. Tekniken att göra ett hål med utkragning verkar genialisk och ger direkt en viss skyddshöjd mot plagiat, alltså en intressant teknik att bygga på.

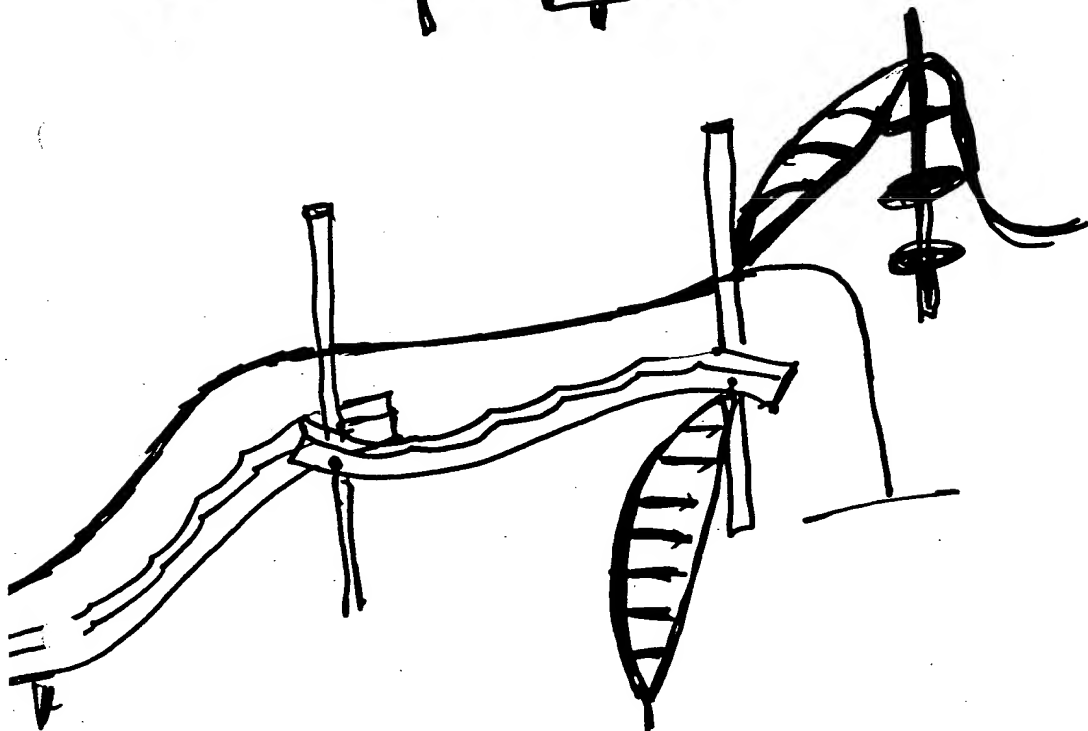
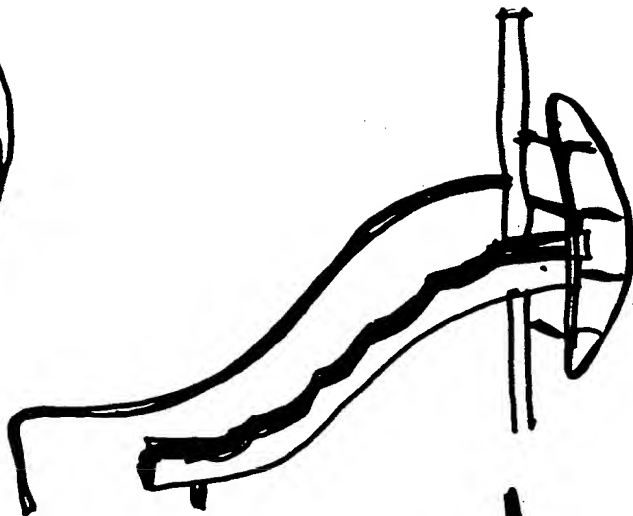
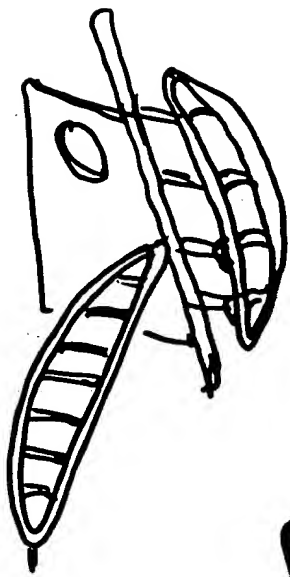
Jag har skrivit ett försök till policy hur vi ska angripa problemet. Därtill har jag låtit pennan förmedla något av vad jag menar. Det vore intressant att ventilera detta med dej, tror att det kan finnas en intressant väg utan att offra framtida möjligheter till ett full-stål Uniplay. Nyhetsbehovet blir prioriterat och borde tillfredsställa större del av marknaden.

Ringer dej halv två.

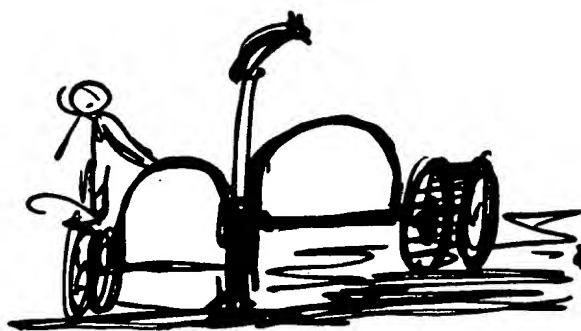
Hälsningar; Svenne Sjöstam







Funkhoner?



Sofa.

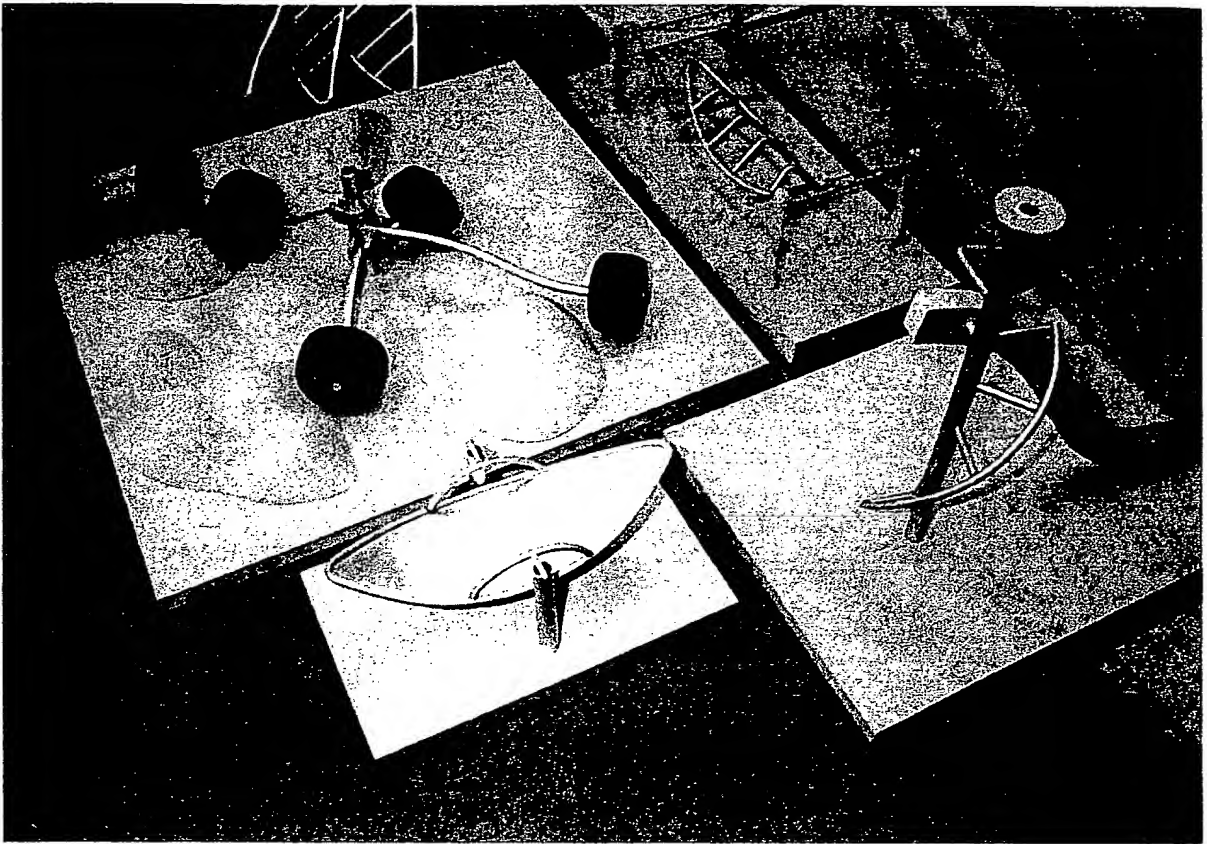


EXHIBIT C

